Quiz 12 – Chapter 8 – The Legislative Branch  
  
1. Which of the following is *not* true regarding the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives?

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|  | a. | He or she is selected by direct popular vote in a general election. |
|  | b. | He or she may appoint all committee chairs. |
|  | c. | He or she refers all bills to standing committees. |
|  | d. | He or she is the joint chair of the Legislative Budget Board. |

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2. In the Texas House, a committee that considers legislation and recommends whether it should or should not pass is called a(n)

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|  | a. | procedural committee. |
|  | b. | substantive (standing) committee. |
|  | c. | interim committee. |
|  | d. | joint (two-house) committee. |

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3. The Legislative Black Caucus has been most concerned about

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|  | a. | highway construction. |
|  | b. | hate crimes laws. |
|  | c. | the state’s general sales tax. |
|  | d. | the issue of campaign financing. |

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4. Which of the following statements is true regarding the Texas legislature?

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|  | a. | It does not recognize the party affiliation of its members. |
|  | b. | It has no party organization—not even informal caucuses. |
|  | c. | It is dominated by the Democratic Party, with no Republican influence. |
|  | d. | It has Democratic and Republican caucuses that are increasingly important. |

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5. The Mexican American Legislative Caucus played an important role in

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|  | a. | the creation of an indigent housing system and education plan. |
|  | b. | increasing funding from the lottery and gambling. |
|  | c. | the establishment of a pharmacy college and health center. |
|  | d. | electing district judges from single-member districts. |

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6. The liberal ideological caucus in the Texas legislature is the

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|  | a. | Legislative Black Caucus. |
|  | b. | House and Senate Democratic caucuses. |
|  | c. | Legislative Study Group. |
|  | d. | Senate Hispanic Caucus. |

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7. Rules relating to the procedures for operation of the Texas Senate would be dealt with in a

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|  | a. | simple resolution. |
|  | b. | concurrent resolution. |
|  | c. | joint resolution. |
|  | d. | appropriations bill. |

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8. Adopting the guitar as the state musical instrument required that the legislature uses  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to make the icon official.

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|  | a. | a simple resolution |
|  | b. | a concurrent resolution |
|  | c. | a joint resolution |
|  | d. | an appropriations bill |

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9. A bill making exception to general law for a named individual is known as a

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|  | a. | concurrent resolution. |
|  | b. | special bill. |
|  | c. | general bill. |
|  | d. | local bill. |

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10. To enact a law applying specifically to Collin county, the Texas legislature would pass a

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|  | a. | special bill. |
|  | b. | local bill. |
|  | c. | joint resolution. |
|  | d. | concurrent resolution. |

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11. The primary function of the state auditor is to

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|  | a. | determine if there are sufficient funds to pay legislative appropriations. |
|  | b. | determine if state funds have been spent by the state agencies in accordance with law. |
|  | c. | determine how state revenues are to be invested. |
|  | d. | authorize the payment from the Treasury to all persons with claims against the state. |

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12. The legislature may require reports from state agencies under a procedure known as

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|  | a. | auditing. |
|  | b. | consultation. |
|  | c. | oversight. |
|  | d. | gerrymandering. |

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13. Most of the governor’s board and commission appointments to head state agencies must be submitted and approved by

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|  | a. | at least two-thirds of the Senate. |
|  | b. | the relevant Senate committee. |
|  | c. | a majority of the House of Representatives. |
|  | d. | at least a simple majority vote of the senators. |

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14. A member of the Texas legislature would be immune from adverse judicial action if he

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|  | a. | libels a citizen during a speech at his hometown Rotary Club. |
|  | b. | is arrested for intoxicated driving while the legislature is in session. |
|  | c. | is arrested for causing an automobile accident during the session. |
|  | d. | slanders in a speech during a legislative proceeding. |

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15. In Texas, the second 30 days of the legislative session are mainly reserved for

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|  | a. | any non-legislative duties. |
|  | b. | introduction of new legislation. |
|  | c. | action on concurrent resolutions. |
|  | d. | standing committee action on bills. |

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16. After its first reading in the House of Representatives, a bill is

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|  | a. | debated and voted upon. |
|  | b. | referred to the appropriate committee. |
|  | c. | forwarded to the Senate for its action. |
|  | d. | referred to the House Rules Committee. |

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17. House rules prohibit ghost voting, a practice which involves representatives

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|  | a. | scaring another representative into voting their way. |
|  | b. | pressing the voting button for another representative. |
|  | c. | having a senator vote for them. |
|  | d. | not voting when present in the chamber. |

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18. A two-thirds vote on the floor of the Texas Senate is required for any bill to be considered due to the use of a

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|  | a. | blocking bill. |
|  | b. | discharge petition. |
|  | c. | super quorum. |
|  | d. | friendly filibuster. |

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19. After a bill passes both houses of the Texas legislature, it then

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|  | a. | must be reviewed by the courts before becoming law. |
|  | b. | automatically dies if vetoed by the governor. |
|  | c. | becomes law only with the governor’s signature. |
|  | d. | becomes law with or without a governor’s signature. |

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20. If the governor vetoes a bill after the legislature has adjourned,

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|  | a. | the bill will die and cannot be overridden. |
|  | b. | the bill may go to a House-Senate conference committee. |
|  | c. | the legislature will call itself into an override session. |
|  | d. | the bill will go on a referendum override ballot. |

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